

REMARKS

Applicants appreciate the thorough examination of the present application that is evidenced in the Official Action of October 18, 2006 ("Office Action"). Applicants have amended Claims 8-12, 14 and 15 to clarify that the claimed subject matter relates to computer apparatus, thus overcoming the non-statutory subject matter rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 101. Applicants have amended Claim 12 to depend from Claim 8 and thereby overcome the objection thereto. Applicants have canceled Claims 7, 13 and 16, thus rendering the rejections thereto moot. Applicants submit that the claims, as amended, are patentable for at least the reasons discussed below.

Independent Claims 1, 8, 14, and 17 are patentable

Independent Claims 1, 8, 14 and 17 stand rejected as allegedly anticipated by U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2002/0138582 to Chandra et al. ("Chandra"). Office Action, p. 4. Claim 1 recites:

A method of providing a user interface for an application, the method comprising:
identifying a user interface template that implements a task pattern for a model class;
identifying a model adapter that provides an interface for the application that conforms to the model class; and
creating a user interface for the application from the identified user interface template and the identified model adapter.

For example, as explained at pages 8 of the specification, a task pattern commonly used with enterprise information systems (EIS) and relational databases is a "search-and-browse" pattern. According to some embodiments of the present invention, a user interface template may be developed for a model class that supports this task pattern. A model adapter for a particular application, such as a particular relational database, may be combined with the user template to create a user interface for the application that implements the particular task pattern.

The Office Action cites paragraphs 394 and 399-400 as teaching the recitations of Claim 1. Office Action, p. 4. Chandra describes transportable applications that may be used for communication and collaboration. Chandra, paragraph 34. The transportable applications may

be distributed using transport mechanisms similar to e-mail. Chandra, paragraph 36. The transportable applications may be structured as "building blocks," which are "functional units of a transportable application" and which "encapsulates business logic, data and presentation." Chandra, paragraph 329.

The cited paragraph 394 of Chandra describes Presenter objects ("presenters") that work with Presenter Data Objects (PDOs) that "contains all data of a building block that can possible can be displayed on any device in any form, and all associated interaction pathways." Chandra, paragraph 391. A presenter uses a PDO to do a presentation, for example, an HTML presenter presents data in a PDO in an HTML format. Chandra, paragraph 391. Presenters may be "generic," i.e., may work with PDOs that conform to a particular interface, or a converter may be used to map a specific PDO to a generic presenter. Chandra, paragraph 394. A "custom" presenter may work with only a specific PDO.

The cited paragraph 399 of Chandra describes that, when a building block is to be presented, an application server requests the building block to construct a specific PDO. The cited paragraph 400 of Chandra indicates that the application server then instantiates the appropriate custom presenter, generic presenter or generic presenter/converter combination, and passes the instantiated presenter to a Java Server Page that uses the presenter to render data from the PDO.

There appears to be nothing in this description that corresponds to "identifying a user interface template that implements a task pattern for a model class," as the cited material from Chandra includes no discussion of anything corresponding to "task patterns" for model classes. Moreover, the cited material also appears to lack anything corresponding to the cited "model adaptor," as the generic presenter adaptor described in the cited material is for adapting a generic presenter to a particular data object, not an adaptor for adapting an application, such as a relational database or EIS system, to a model class. Accordingly, Applicants submit that Chandra does not disclose or suggest several of the recitations of Claim 1 and, for at least these reasons, Applicants submit that Claim 1 is patentable. At least similar reasons support the patentability of independent Claims 8, 14 and 17.

The dependent claims are patentable

Applicants submit that dependent Claims 2-6, 9-12, 15 and 18-20 are patentable at least by virtue of the patentability of the respective ones of independent Claims 1, 8, 14 and 17 from which they depend. Applicants further submit that several of the dependent claims are separately patentable.

For example, Claim 2 recites "wherein the user interface template comprises a generic view and a generic controller." In rejecting Claim 2, the Office Action cites paragraphs 294, 318, 394, 399, 400 and 405. Office Action, p. 4. None of these paragraphs refer to "generic views" or "generic controllers" of a user interface template. Accordingly, Chandra does not provide the alleged teachings and, for at least these reasons, Applicants submit that Claim 2 is separately patentable. At least similar reasons support the separate patentability of Claims 9 and 18.

Claim 3 recites "wherein the user interface template defines an abstract portlet, and wherein creating a user interface comprises creating a portlet instance that communicates with the application via the model adapter." In rejecting Claim 3, the Office Action cites paragraphs 368-370, 399 and 400. Office Action, p. 2. The cited paragraphs describe use of a "personal portal" that provides a user with access to transportable applications, e.g., membership services, lists of transportable applications received by the user, etc., such that the "portal provides an organized entry point through which a user may create, organize and send transportable applications and access tools and services for doing so." Chandra, paragraph 367. This appears to have nothing to do with a template that defines an abstract portlet that is instantiated to provide communication "with the application via the model adapter." Accordingly, Applicants submit that Chandra does not disclose or suggest the recitations of Claim 3 and, for at least these reasons, Applicants submit that Claim 3 is separately patentable. At least similar reasons support the separate patentability of Claims 10 and 19.

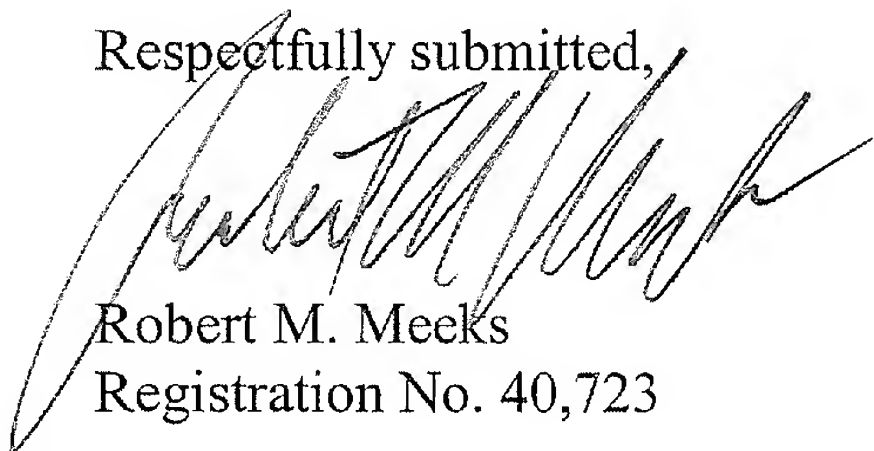
Claim 4 recites "wherein creating a portlet instance comprises configuring the portlet instance using an application portlet builder portlet." The Office Action cites paragraphs 428-432 and 441-445 of Chandra as teaching such recitations. Office Action, p. 4. These paragraphs refer to an "application builder," but this is a tool for creating transportable applications (see

Chandra, paragraph 427), not portlets. Accordingly, Applicants submit that Chandra does not disclose or suggest the recitations of Claim 4 and, for at least these reasons, Claim 4 is separately patentable. At least similar reasons support the separate patentability of Claims 11 and 20.

CONCLUSION

In light of the above remarks, Applicants respectfully submit that the above-entitled application is in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration of this application is respectfully requested. If, in the opinion of the Examiner, a telephonic conference would expedite the examination of this matter, the Examiner is invited to call the undersigned attorney at (919) 854-1400.

Respectfully submitted,



Robert M. Meeks
Registration No. 40,723

Customer Number 46589
Myers Bigel Sibley & Sajovec, P.A.
P.O. Box 37428
Raleigh, NC 27627
919-854-1400
919-854-1401 (Fax)